

Frankford Arsenal, Building 148
Northeast corner of Eakin Street and Craig Road
Philadelphia
Philadelphia County
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-74H

HAER
PA,
51-PHILA,
693-H-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Frankford Arsenal, Building 148

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Location: Northeast corner of Eakin Street and Craig Road
Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania

Quad: Frankford

Date of Construction: 1918

Significance: One of a series of magazines at Frankford Arsenal, the building was the U.S. Army's principal manufacturer of ammunition throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Constructed in 1918, it is associated with the large scale expansion of the arsenal that resulted from U.S. involvement in World War I.

Historian: Patrick W. O'Bannon
Principal Historian
John Milner Associates, Inc.
1216 Arch Street, 5th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

HISTORY

Some evidence exists to suggest that the duPont Company provided the U.S. Army with plans for the company's surveillance magazine, and that these plans were utilized to construct the surveillance magazine, Building 148, at Frankford Arsenal. Used as a constant temperature magazine, the building was enlarged in 1941. A heavy blast wall was constructed to the southeast of the building in 1944, separating it from other nearby magazines and storage facilities

DESCRIPTION

Building 148 is a single-story magazine constructed of stuccoed, hollow-tile walls on a concrete foundation. The flat roof is located behind a stepped parapet. The roof consists of reinforced concrete and hollow tile with composition roofing. The original building, which measured approximately 30 feet by 12 feet was constructed in 1918-1919. In 1941, the building was enlarged by construction of an addition measuring approximately 33 feet by 17 feet against the north facade. In 1944, a reinforced concrete barrier wall was constructed immediately southeast of the building. The interior of the building consists of a single-loaded corridor along the west wall. Eight small rooms open off of this corridor.

SOURCE

John Milner Associates, "Historical and Archeological Survey of Frankford Arsenal," West Chester, PA: John Milner Associates, 1979.

Report prepared for the Department of the Army, Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers, Baltimore, Maryland. Copies on file at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Free Library of Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

For complete overview of site, see HAER No. PA-74.

